AN

ACCOMPT

OF

TWO BOOKS

I.

PRODROMO overo Saggio di alcune Inventioni nuove premeſſo all *ARTE MAESTRA* di P. *Franciſco Lana* della Campagnia di Jeſu, in *Breſcia*, 1670, in 4°.

THis Introduction is premiſed to a Work, deſigned by the Author to ſhew the Valuableneſs of the Principles and Knowledg of Natural Philoſophy, by ſome of the more conſiderable Inventions and Experiments hitherto found in Authors, and other new ones of this Writer himſelf; who having in his *Preface* with much freedom repreſented and animadverted upon the Errors committed by thoſe, that have and do treat of Natural Philoſophy

loſophy, and inſiſted much upon the Lord *Bacon* (though not named) his method and way of Philoſophiſing, giveth us in this *Prodromus* an *Eſſay* of ſome (by him eſteemed uſeful) Diſcoveries and Practiſes, for which we are obliged to Philoſophy. Of the many particulars, he reckons up and diſcourſes of in this Fore-runner, we ſhall only recite one, and recommend it to the trial of the Curious; which is a *Way to make any Flowers or Fruits grow without Seed;* and which our Author deſcribeth, as follows.

I took (ſaith he) a quantity of Orange-flowers, and put them into half a pound of Oyl of ſweet Almonds, together with a little Rock-allom, and ſo incloſed all in a glaſs-flask; which being well ſtopp'd, I expos'd to the Sun for a Month, adding ſtill more flowers, when I found the firſt were putrified, yet without taking theſe out. A Month being paſs'd, I powr'd out the Oyl, impregnated with the vertue of thoſe flowers and very odoriferous, into ſeveral Glaſs-Vials, and carefully ſet them aſide, leaving them untouch'd till the next Spring; at which time looking upon theſe Vials, I obſerved within them certain *Flowers* ſwimming in the Oyl, which to me appear'd not at all different from true and freſh Leaves and Flowers of the Orange-Tree. But the wonder encreaſed ſome Months after, when the hot ſeaſon being advanced, the Flowers were turned into *Fruit* about the ſame time that ſuch fruit was ripen'd upon the Tree; there being ſeen at the bottom of the Vials ſome ſmall Oranges with their proper colour, together with thoſe ſmall ſpecks, which that fruit uſeth to have; ſo that they were in nothing diſtinguiſhable from true Oranges, their ſmalneſs excepted.

There are many (*ſo he goes on*) in the Colledge of *Rome* whom I might alledge as Witneſſes of this curious *Metamorphoſis*, but one ſhall ſerve for all, and that is his Excel-

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lency Signior *Innocentio Conti*, now Lieutenant-General of the Army of the Church, whoſe high Extraction, rare Valour, and ſublime Wit and Knowledge, have been alwayes admired by me. He was pleas'd to accept of one of theſe Vials from my hands, in which every year hitherto, in the ſeaſon of the Bloſſoming of Oranges, ſuch Flowers are ſeen, which at the time of the ripeneſs of the Fruit are alſo transformed into Fruit.

II.

Joh. Henr. Meibomii de *CEREVISIIS*, potibúſque & ebriaminibus extra Vinum aliis Commentarius, annexo libello *Turnebi* de *Vino*. Helmeſtadii 1668. in 4°.

THe Publiſher of this *Commentary*, (but lately come to our knowledge) who is the Son of its Author, renders in the Preface a reaſon, why afrer ſo many Books, formerly publiſh'd on the ſame ſubject, by *Gazius*, *Gratarolus*, *Haggecius*, *Schookius*, &c. he would yet publiſh this alſo: In the doing of which he alledgeth, that theſe Authors having only a Medical aim, did meerly examine the nature and quality of thoſe ſorts of Bier, which are *now* in uſe; but that this Writer ſearcheth and relateth from remoteſt Antiquity all kinds of drinks, uſed by all ſorts of Nations, and compareth them with the Modern drinks; diſcourſing of their Uſe only by the by.

This done he diſcourſeth out of Authors, how and by whom, after the firſt uſe of *Water* and *Milk*, were introduced the drinks made out of *Vegetables*; as the Vine, Barley, Wheat, Maiz, Millet, Oats, Rice, Apples, Pears, Pomegranates; and the various Juyces tapped out of Trees, as the Palm, Birch, Sycamore, Maple, and many more

more. To which he adds thoſe drinks, that are prepared out of *Roots*, *Berries*, *Sugar*, and *Sugar-Canes*, and the like. Then he proceeds to that luſcious drink, which is made out of that Animal ſubſtance *Hony*, called *Meath*, and found mention'd in ſome of the moſt ancient Writers, amongſt whom he citeth *Orpheus*;

Ἕυ τε ἄν δὴ μιν ἴδηαι ὑπὸ δρυσὶν ὑψιήμισιν
Ἔρχισι μεθύονθ' μελισσάων ἐρεμβόμβων
Δῆσον ——

Poſtquam igitur cernes ipſum ſub quercubus altis
Depoſitum, Succo ex Apibus mox vincula membris
Injice ——

Which relateth to the Fable, in which the *Night* is repreſented to have counſelled *Jupiter*, deſigning to dethrone and caſtrate his father *Saturn*, that he ſhould by making him drunk with *Meath*, caſt him into a deep ſleep, and ſo do with him what he pleaſed.

To theſe he ſubjoyneth many intoxicating Drinks, made with narcotick and other hearbs; as alſo the various ſtupifying Fumes, among which *Tobacco* is now ſo famous and common; to which he applieth what *Virgil* ſings of *Caco*;

Faucibus ingentem fumum, mirabile dictu,
Evomit, involvitque domum caligine cæcâ,
Proſpectum eripiens oculis, glomerátque ſub antris
Fumiferam noctem, commiſtis igne tenebris.

He concludeth all with the modern various wayes of *Brewing Bier*; of which ſee the *Diſcourſe* it ſelf.

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The annexed *Tract* of *Turnebus* is both elegant, and conſiderable for the Obſervations therein alledged, to ſhew the noxious effects of *Wine* in thoſe people, that drink much of that liquor; preferring good Water, Milk, Bier, and eſpecially good Cider, far above it; and taking notice, that Wine-drinkers have generally more deform'd, lower and drier bodies, as alſo ſhaking limbs, and a more haſty decay of ſight, than others.

Errata.

IN *Numb.* 68. p. 2081. l. 10. r. *Chylous Urine.* In the Index annexed to *Numb.* 68. add at the very end of the particulars, liſted under the Letter *M*, after the word *Reſtitution*, theſe two numbers, 67. 2058.

In this *Numb.* 69. p. 2090. l. 15. r. *or his Angels.* p. 2092. l. 8. r. *Experience. Doctor.* p. 2095. l. 4. *other at A.*

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